

Message Text

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60

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/106 W

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R 261617Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7516

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MTN GENEVA

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EC, EAGR, BE

SUBJECT: COMMISSION PROPOSAL TO TAX VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS

O

REF: A) BRUSSELS 006899, B) LUXEMBOURG 0717

1. DURING FOLLOW-UP CONVERSATION WITH CROHAIN, CHEF DE CABINET, MOA,
ON JULY 26, WE AGAIN WERE TOLD BELGIANS THINK IT UNLIKELY EC WILL ADOPT

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PROPOSED DAIRY REFORM PACKAGE THIS YEAR. ACCORDING TO CROHAIN, CURRENT

DROUGHT HAS CHANGED DAIRY SITUATION TO EXTENT THAT SEVERAL EC AGRICULTURAL

MINISTERS WANT TO ASSESS SITUATION MORE FULLY BEFORE ADOPTING A REFORM

PROGRAM. HE ADDED THIS ASSESSMENT PROBABLY COULD NOT BE COMPLETED BEFORE

OCTOBER AT THE EARLIEST, AND CONSEQUENTLY NO FORMAL POSITION ON TAX ISSUE HAS BEEN ADOPTED YET BY BELGIUM.

2. ON JULY 22, AGATT MET WITH LUXEMBOURG AGRICULTURAL MINISTER HAMILIUS AND REVIEWED U.S. POSITION RE SUBJECT TAX. HAMILIUS WAS AWARE OF IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO SOYBEAN EXPORTS AND OF RECENT REPRESENTATIONS MADE IN EC CAPITALS. HOWEVER, HE WONDERED ABOUT ECONOMIC IMPACT TAX WOULD HAVE ON U.S. SOYBEAN AND PRODUCT EXPORTS, AND ADDED THAT EUROPEANS WERE "SHOCKED" BY 1973 EMBARGO STATING "WE NEVER THOUGHT SUCH A THING COULD HAPPEN".

3. HAMILIUS SAID LUXEMBOURG HAD NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION ON TAX ISSUE; HOWEVER, HE BELIEVED THE BRITISH AND POSSIBLY THE GERMANS WOULD OPPOSE IT. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

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